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passengers coming from Persia. They can pass over the frontier only at Pendjauvine and Haneguine where they will be subjected to a regular quarantine. Besides the Shiite visitors coming on for pilgrimage into Irak Arabia will be driven back.

C. COUDAN,  
*Acting for the Inspector.*

*Plague at Smyrna.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the consul at Smyrna has advised this Department, by a telegram dated the 29th instant, that plague has appeared at that port.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Result of bacteriological examination of suspect plague case.*

[Press clipping forwarded by Passed Assistant Surgeon Greene from Bremen, Germany.—Translated in this Bureau.]

CONSTANTINOPLE.—The bacteriological examination made here yesterday of the suspect plague case at Smyrna proved the presence of plague bacilli. At an extra session of the sanitary council the sanitary police observation of travelers arriving from Smyrna, the disinfection of vessels, and the destruction of rats in ships' holds were ordered. A large mortality among rats has been observed at Smyrna.

VENEZUELA.

*Sanitary conditions of Maracaibo.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose for your information copy of a dispatch from the consul of the United States at Maracaibo in regard to the sanitary condition of that city.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.—No. 1291]

MARACAIBO, May 15, 1900.

SIR: In my dispatch No. 1285 of May 1, I had the honor to report that smallpox has made its appearance, and that the port of Curaçao has placed quarantine against Maracaibo.

It gives me pleasure to state that, to all appearance, the danger is over, only 8 cases having turned out to be real smallpox. They were at once isolated at the smallpox hospital outside of the city.

No death has been recorded, and in all cases the danger is over and the patients are in convalescence. As I have to dispatch vessels for the United States, I have written to the physician of the port, also to the board of health of the city and State, asking them if I could give clean bills of health. From both authorities I received the positive assurance that there is no reason why I should not give clean bills of health.

The Norwegian steamer *Hilden* leaves for New York with a clean bill.

As I stated in my former report, the cases were introduced here by Colombians. We have here now such terribly hot weather as never known before in Maracaibo. No clouds, but the fiery sun, without a refreshing breeze.

It seems that this abominable hot weather is the reason why the disease did not spread. It is said by the doctor that the rays of the sun are not favorable for the propagation of smallpox.

Respectfully,

E. PLUMACHER,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.